Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W

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R 230750Z SEP 76 FM USINT BAGHDAD TO USDOC WASHDC INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3647 AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

UNCLAS BAGHDAD 1390

AMEMBASSY DOHA

USDOC FOR OIM/SAD (WANDA ALE) FROM KILLOUGH

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, IZ, SY, QA, TC

SUBJECT: PENNSYLVANIA STATE IOGA TRADE MISSION

REF: (A) USDOC 12262, (B) BAGHDAD 1259 (NOTAL)

- 1. USINT CONTROL OFFICER WILL BE T.P. KILLOUGH, ASSISTED BY SENIOR FSLS PAUL SALEH AND KRIKOR TOPAKIAN.
- 2. USINT OFFICIALLY INFORMED GOI MFA VIA NOTE SEPTEMBER 14 OF MISSION 'S

INTENTIONS AND SCHEDULE AS WELL AS PENDING OCTOBER 10-15 VISIT OF ADVANCE MAN THOMAS J.MURRAY. ON SEPTEMBER 23 WE PLAN SEND SECOND NOTE GIVING REVISED MISSION COMPOSITION AND THOSE MEMBERS BIO SHEETS ENCLOSED WITH PENNSYLVANIA DEPT OF COMMERCE (J.T. ROGERS) LETTER OF SEPT 14 TO KEISWETTER. WITH THREE DAY EID AL FIRIDA HOLIDAYS NOW UPON US, UNLIKELY WE WILL HAVE FURTHER COMMUNICATIONS WITH MFA BEFORE SEPTEMBER 29.

3. SEPT 14 ROGERS LETTER LISTED EIGHT MISSION MEMBERS BUT DID NOT INCLUDE INFRO SHEETS ON TWO: (A) BERNARD MCDERMOTT OF AMERICAN CHAIN AND (B) DR. ROBERT ALEXANDER, COORDINATOR, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS PROGRAMS, PENN STATE UNIVERSITY. REQUEST ASAP TELEGRAPHIC STATEMENTS REGARDING THESE TWO UNCLASSIFIED

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(ESPECIALLY ALEXANDER) FOR FOLLOW-UP WITH MFA.

4. IN SEPT 16 TELEX ROGERS REITERATED HIS UNDERSTANDABLE REQUEST ADVANCE MAN MURRAY BE HOUSED OCTOBER 10-15 AT HOTEL

BAGHDAD. WE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT COMPLY. BUT REQUEST USDOC MAKE IT CLEAR TO ROGERS AND MURRAY THAT, BECAUSE OF ENORMOUS INFLUX OF VISITORS FOR BAGHDAD FAIR OCTOBER 1-21, IT IS MOST RPT MOST UNLIKELY ROGERS WILL STAY AT HOTEL BAGHDAD, ALTHOUGH HE MAY BE ABLE TO DO SO ON RETURN VISIT OCTOBER 27-29 WHEN SPACE IS LESS AT PREMIUM. IN THIS CONNECTION, DOES ROGERS HAVE TWO ENTRY VISAS FOR IRAQ? IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, RECOMMEND SUCH VISA AND THAT IT BE ISSUED IN WASHINGTON. OTHERWISE VISA FO SECOND ENTRY WILL HAVE TO BE ISSUED IN DAMASCUS AND WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE EXPENDITURE OF TIME BY USINT AND AMEMB DAMASCUS. ADVISE.

5. RE MURRAY'S FLIGHT SCHEDULE: FOLLOWING IS LATEST AVAILABLE IFORMATION:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10 - ALITALIA 704 - ETD ROME 1600 EATA BAGHDAD 1900

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15 - IRAQI 119 - ETD BAGHDAD 0200 ETA DOHA 0350

(NOTE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27 SYRIAN FLT 361 DOES NOT RPT NOT FLY.)

ASSUME, THEREFORE, MURRAY'S SECOND BAGHDAD VISIT WILL HAVE TO BE TUESDAY, OCTOBER - SYRIAN 361 - ETD DAMASCUS 0700 ETA BAGHDAD 0820

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29 - IRAQI 237 - ETD BAGHDAD 0900 (FOR LONDON)

6. RE MISSION'S SCHEDULE: WE NOTE ONLY 75 MINUTES (1045-1200)
ALLOWED IN ROME ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28 FOR TRANSFER
BETWEEN TWA 806 AND UNNUMBERED ALITALIA FLIGHT TO BAGHDAD.
THIS SEEMS RISKY. WISH ALSO POINT OUT THAT ON NOVEMBER FIRST
EACH YEAR IRAQI AIRWAYS AND OTHER REGIONAL AIRLINES MAKE MAJOR
CHANGES IN SCHEDULING. IMPERATIVE THAT POSTS IN ABU DHABI,
DAMASCUS, AND DOHA REMAIN ALERT TO THESE CHANGES AND THAT WE
ALL KEEP ONE ANOTHER AND MISSION INFORMED AS FAR IN ADVANCE
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AS POSSIBLE.

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